

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 047890

53

ORIGIN NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 L-02 H-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

SCA-01 /024 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:DAKORN:GCB

APPROVED BY NEA/ARN:DAKORN

SCS - MR. DAVIS

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P 041727Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 047890

E.O11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC

SUBJECT: GREENEY-CROSS CASE

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM KORN

1. ON MARCH 3 AND 4 I SPOKE TO JOANN GREENEY'S PARENTS AND LAWYER FOR CROSS FAMILY TO FILL THEM IN ON EMBASSY'S EFFORTS TO GAIN ACCESS TO GREENEY AND CROSS. I MADE CLEAR OUR CONCERN OVER SARG'S FAILURE TO GRANT ACCESS THUS FAR, DESPITE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S PROMISE, AND SAID WE WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS HARD FOR ACCESS AND EXPECT IT TO BE GRANTED SHORTLY. GREENEY'S PARENTS AND CROSS FAMILY LAWYER EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING OF DIFFICULTIES EMBASSY FACES BUT WERE OBVIOUSLY CONCERNED AND ANXIOUS TO HAVE WORD ON JOANN'S AND LEONARD'S WELFARE AND MORE INFORMATION ON THEIR SITUATION.

2. WITH MORE THAN A MONTH HAVING ELAPSED SINCE GREENEY'S AND CROSS' ARREST, SARG'S FAILURE TO ALLOW ACCESS AND PROVIDE MEANINGFUL INFORMATION ON CASE IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND EVEN FOR ONE WELL AWARE OF HOW SYRIANS OPERATE IN THESE MATTERS. HOPE YOUR TALK WITH
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PAGE 02 STATE 047890

SENIOR SECURITY OFFICIAL WILL BREAK THE IMPASSE VERY SOON.

SUBSTANTIAL FURTHER DELAY IN GAINING ACCESS COULD CAUSE US
PROBLEMS. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE047890
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: DAKORN:GCB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750075-0765
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750384/aaaacxht.tel
Line Count: 63
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 AUG 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <05 DEC 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GREENEY-CROSS CASE FOR AMBASSADOR FROM KORN
TAGS: CASC, SY, US, (GREENEY, JOANN MARY), (CROSS, LEONARD EDWARD)
To: DAMASCUS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006